Application No. 09/889,862 Filed: July 23, 2001 TC Art Unit: 1733 Confirmation No.: 1507

REMARKS

Claim 21 has been objected to. The subject matter of claim 21 has been incorporated into independent claim 1. Dependent claims 50 and 52 have been amended and claim 51 has been cancelled for consistency with amended claim 1. Claims 22 and 56-68 are allowed. Accordingly, all claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and indication thereof are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

JEAN-MICHEL GUIRMAN ET AL.

By: Severly Hjorth
Registration No. 32,033
Attorney for Applicants

WEINGARTEN, SCHURGIN,
GAGNEBIN & LEBOVICI LLP
Ten Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109
Telephone: (617) 542-2290
Telecopier: (617) 451-0313

BEH/dkh/308031